



WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1                   1. A computing system, wherein applications access databases to obtain  
2 data and the databases are updated from time to time and the applications require  
3 consistent data from the databases even while an update is occurring, the computing  
4 system comprising:

5           a first database;

6           a second database, wherein the first database and second database a substantive  
7           copies of each other outside of an update period;

8           a database indicator that indicates one of the first and second databases as a live  
9           database and the other one of the first and second databases as a load database;

10          a query router for routing queries from application to the live database; and

11          a router switcher for switching the database indicator such that the live database  
12          becomes the load database and the load database becomes the live database.

1                   2. The computing system of claim 1, wherein the queries from an  
2 application to the live database are in the form of SQL queries.

1                   3. The computing system of claim 1, further comprising an update router  
2 for routing updates from an updater to the load database.

1                   4. The computing system of claim 3, wherein the updates from an updater  
2 to the load database are in the form of SQL statements.

1                   5. The computing system of claim 1, further comprising an update cache  
2 that stores updates from the updater including logic to initiate update of the live database  
3 with the stored updates when the live database becomes the load database.

1                   6. A method for providing consistent information from a database  
2 management system comprising a plurality of databases, comprising:  
3           receiving a request for a first information item by said database management system;  
4           processing said request by a first database of said database management system,  
5           when said request is for a read operation;  
6           processing said request by a second database of said database management system,  
7           when said request is for a write operation; and

8 following a database update period, switching the roles of the first database and the  
9 second database such that the database that processed reads then processes writes  
10 and the database that processed writes then processes reads.